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Illinois State Normal
University.

Centennial Year, 1957.



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Northern Illinois State College
1895



Western Illinois State College
1899

University of Illinois
1867

Eastern Illinois State College
1895

Southern Illinois University
1869

Centennial Year 1957

MARKING THE FOUNDING OF

ILLINOIS STATE NORMAL UNIVERSITY

AND THE START OF STATE-SUPPORTED
HIGHER EDUCATION IN ILLINOIS

On Feb. 18, 1857, Governor William H. Bissell signed the legislative act establishing Illinois State Normal University as the first state supported institution of higher education in Illinois. Governor William G. Stratton is shown to the right as he signed the legislative act providing an appropriation for observing the University's Centennial 100 years later.



Members of the State Teachers College Board shown above govern not only Illinois State Normal University but the Eastern Illinois State College, Northern Illinois State College, and Western Illinois State College. Standing from left to right they include: William E. Reed, Alexander Summers, Royal A. Stipes, Jr., J. A. Houle, Jr., Chauncey B. Watson, Sr., Carl Dunbar, and Clarence Ropp. Seated from left to right they are: Vernon L. Nickell, Morton H. Hollingsworth, Lewis M. Walker (chairman), and Mrs. Harriet Lowden Madlener.

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Illinois

On October 5, 1857, nineteen students met in Major's Hall, a rented building in Bloomington, for the first day of classes at Illinois State Normal University. President Charles E. Hovey was assisted in the teaching by Ira Moore and, a few weeks later, they were joined by Charlton T. Lewis. Before the end of the first term, the Model School for the primary grades had been opened with the capable Miss Mary Brooks as teacher. Thus, a university to educate teachers finally became a reality.

Illinois State Normal University was the first state-supported institution of higher learning in Illinois as well as the second state normal west of the Alleghenies. As early as the 1830's, voices had been raised requesting the establishment of a state-supported normal school. The 1848 Constitution of Illinois gave added impetus to this movement by providing for free public schools. Those concerned with schools and teaching felt that Illinois needed to do more in education; and some interested persons met in Bloomington on December 26-28, 1853, to organize the Teachers' Institute, which later became the Illinois State Teachers' Association. At that organization meeting, a vigorously endorsed resolution called for the establishment of a normal school to prepare teachers for the public schools of Illinois. Leaders in keeping this idea before the public were such able men as Jonathan B. Turner, Simeon Wright, Newton Bateman, and Samuel Moulton as well as Daniel Wilkins, Ninian Edwards, and William Powell. Three years later in the winter of 1856 and 1857, Moulton engineered a bill creating Illinois State Normal University through the state legislature; and, on February 18, 1857, Governor William H. Bissell signed the act establishing the University.

The act provided for a committee to choose a site and a principal. Largely because of the efforts of Jesse Fell, the site chosen was McLean County and the first principal was Charles E. Hovey, then superintendent of the Peoria Schools. President Hovey, with the aid

Jonathan B. Turner

Jesse Fell

Simeon Wright



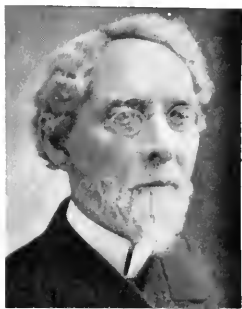
of the Fells, the Holders, Moulton, Powell, Rex, Denio and others, raised money for the first building. On September 29, 1857, the cornerstone was laid for that building on about sixty acres of land that had been donated by Joseph Payne and Meschack Pike.

The first class to graduate—with ten members in 1860—held its exercises in the almost completed four-story building, known through the century as Old Main. Illinois State Normal University rapidly became the leading institution for teacher education in the Midwest. Educators watched its curricular experiments and development, and they saw its graduates and staff assume important positions in schools and colleges throughout the country.

The growth of the University has been continuous. In 1857-1858, there were 127 students and pupils, six teachers, about ninety-six acres of land, two floors of rented classroom space, and the partially constructed first building, Old Main. In 1956-1957, there were 4,868 students and pupils, 286 teachers, twenty-five major buildings including a library with 178,912 volumes and a student union building, a sixty-eight acre main campus, and a 192-acre farm with a complement of twelve buildings. The visions, dreams, and hopes of the founding fathers and early teachers of Illinois State Normal University have surely been fulfilled and probably fulfilled beyond their expectations.

As the University begins its second century, it faces the challenge of preparing teachers for a state that has nearly doubled its pupil enrollment during the past decade. It faces also the challenge of preparing teachers to instruct the pupils for a fabulous future, a future of jet speed, atomic power, solar energy, and TV miracles. It must also prepare teachers who are patient, able, and thoughtful. In them, the scientific and technological skills must be blended with the knowledge of the social sciences and the spirit and feeling of the humanities. In facing this challenge, the teachers, administrators and Board members of Illinois State Normal University stand confidently beside the founding fathers and the faithful teachers of the past century.

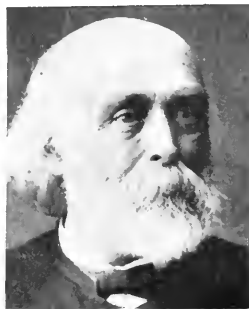
Samuel Moulton



Miss Mary Brooks



Newton Bateman





Illinois State Normal University has had nine presidents during the past century. Shown from left to right they include: top row—Charles E. Hovey (1857-1862); Richard Edwards (1862-1876); Edwin C. Hewett (1876-1890); center row—John W. Cook (1890-1899); Arnold Tompkins (1899-1900); David Felmley (1900-1930); bottom row—Harry A. Brown (1930-1933); Raymond W. Fairchild (1933-1955), and Robert G. Bone (1956-).

The University also has had three acting presidents during the past century. Shown from left to right below they include: Perkins Bass (1861-1862); H. H. Schroeder (1930 and 1933), and Arthur H. Larsen (1950, 1954-1956).



Highlights of Centennial

*Note: There are numerous other events scheduled
and some for which dates are pending.*

JANUARY

- 1 Opening of Centennial Year
- 2 Release of Centennial History
- 7 Reprinting of First Edition of Vidette

FEBRUARY

- 12 Dedication of Lincoln Memorial
- 18 Centennial of Legislative Act Establishing ISNU;
Founders' Day Banquet

MARCH

- 2 State Convention of Student Branch of the Association
of Childhood Education
- 8 "Century of the Dance"—Orchesis
- 9 School Public Relations Conference
- 18 An Exhibition of One Hundred Years of Painting
(March 18 through April 5)

APRIL

- 5-6 Convention of Illinois Teachers of English
- 6 Tenth Mathematics Conference
- 13 Illinois Future Teachers of America Convention;
Meeting of Illinois Academy of Science (Junior)
- 26-27 Convention of Illinois Association of Supervisors
and Directors of Curriculum
- 29 Centennial College Day

MAY

- 2-4 Meeting of Illinois Academy of Science
- 10-11 Meeting of Illinois Section of Mathematical Association of America
- 15 Centennial Honors Day
- 18 Dedication of Student Union
- 24-25 Centennial Pageant Drama (In case of rain, May 31 and June 1
are alternate dates.)

Centennial Year Calendar

JUNE

- 7 University High School Graduation
- 7-8 Class Reunions
- 8 Alumni Luncheon; Graduation of Centennial Class
- 12-14 Meeting of State Board of Managers, Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers
- 17 Opening of Summer Session; Start of Round-the-World Geography Field Survey
- 25-27 Social Science Conference

JULY

- 7-17 Paul Christiansen Choral School
- 15-18 Summer Session Educational Conference
- 16-18 Summer Session Educational Exhibit

AUGUST

- 5 Convention of Illinois Association of Student Councils
- 9 Summer Session Commencement
- 12 Opening of Post Session
- 22-24 Convention of Homemakers of Illinois

SEPTEMBER

- 13 Beginning of Second Century Classwork
- 16 Dedication of Schroeder Hall and Metcalf Building

OCTOBER

- 4 Inauguration of Dr. Robert G. Bone as Ninth President
- 11-12 Meeting of Illinois Historical Society
- 13-15 Meeting of North Central Association of Junior Colleges
- 17-20 Centennial Homecoming

NOVEMBER

- 8-9 Meeting of Illinois Speech Association
- 10-16 Commemoration of American Education Week
- 12 Anniversary of Founding of First College YWCA at ISNU
- 17-22 Religious Emphasis Week

DECEMBER

- 7 Twenty-fifth Administrative Round-Up
- 26-28 Convention of Illinois Education Association
- 31 End of Centennial Year

- 1857** The act creating ISNU (February 18) is signed.
North Bloomington is chosen as site (May 7).

PRESIDENT HOVEY (1857-1861)

- 1857** Cornerstone of Old Main is laid (September 29).
First classes open in Major's Hall (October 5).
Model School opens under Mary Brooks (Wiley) (November 2).
1860 First class graduates in unfinished building (June 29).
Old Main is dedicated (January 24).
Hovey recruits "Schoolmasters' Regiment" and leaves for Civil War (August).

ACTING PRESIDENT BASS (1861-1862)

- 1862** High school classes begin in Model School.
J. G. Howell (first graduate, second principal of Model School) is killed in Civil War (February 15).

PRESIDENT EDWARDS (1862-1876)

- 1865** Edwards appeals for dormitories and a gymnasium.
North Bloomington becomes Normal (March 4).
Jesse Fell as Board member improves campus plans.
Men students organize a YMCA.
1872 Right of all youth regardless of race or creed to attend ISNU is established.
Lida Brown (McMurry) and students organize first college YWCA (November 12).
1876 Mrs. Martha Green Haynie becomes first woman named a full professor.

PRESIDENT HEWETT (1876-1890)

- 1882** Quarter-Century Anniversary Celebration is held (August 24-25).
1887 ISNU becomes The Herbartian Center of America 1887-1900. (DeGarmo, the McMurry's, Van Liew, and others)
The first recorded football game shows ISNU defeated Wesleyan—12 to 4.
1888 First *Vidette* is published.
1890 Ange. Vernon Milner becomes first librarian.

PRESIDENT COOK (1890-1899)

- 1892** The first *Index* is published.
1893 Plans for student center are dropped due to financial panic.

1897 Fortieth Anniversary Celebration is held (June 22-23), with all four ISNU presidents participating.
New Buildings: North Hall (1892), Cook Hall (1896)

PRESIDENT TOMPKINS (1899-1900)

1899 Reorganization of curriculum is started.

PRESIDENT FELMLEY (1900-1930)

1907 Semi-Centennial Celebration is held.

1908 First bachelor's degrees are conferred.

1912 Alumni Association is reorganized; first *Alumni Quarterly*, published.

1913 ISNU offers first extension classes.

1917-18 ISNU cooperates in defense and training program.

1921 First Homecoming is observed.

New Buildings: Industrial Arts (1909), Metcalf Building (1912), Fell Hall (dormitory) 1918, McCormick Gymnasium (1925), Felmley Hall of Science (1930)

ACTING PRESIDENT SCHROEDER (1930)

PRESIDENT BROWN (1930-1933)

1932 Bureau of Appointments is organized.

ACTING PRESIDENT SCHROEDER (1933)

PRESIDENT FAIRCHILD (1933-1954)

1933 ISNU holds first Administrative Round-Up (December 1).
County Contact plan is inaugurated.

1934 Radio broadcasting begins.

1943 First U. S. Navy unit arrives.

1945 First master's degree is conferred.

New Buildings: Smith Hall (1938), Home Management Houses (1939), Milner Library (1940), Cardinal Court (1947), Administration Building (1950), Fairchild Hall of Special Education (1951), Barton Hall (1951), Dunn Hall (1951)

ACTING PRESIDENT LARSEN (1950, 1954-1956)

1955 New Buildings: Walker Hall (1955), Start of Student Union with Funds from Alumni, Friends, Faculty, and Students

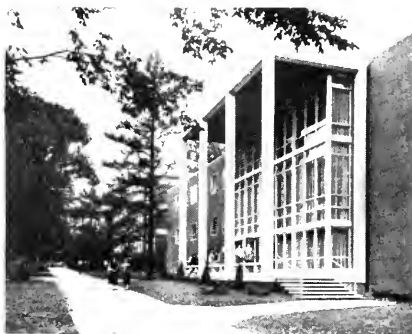
PRESIDENT BONE (1956-)

1956 Centennial History, *Grandest of Enterprises*, is published.
New Buildings: Student Union (1956), New Metcalf Building and Schroeder Hall Under Construction

1957 THE CENTENNIAL YEAR



Old Main, above, built during 1857-1860, appears in its original splendor. Still in use today as a classroom center, Old Main contrasts sharply with the new Student Union, right, constructed as a major project of the Centennial. The Union was financed by student fees without tax money on a bond revenue basis and by contributions from some 2,300 donors.



The recent airview taken from the west shows the 68-acre campus but not the University Farm of 192 acres. In the foreground is Walker Hall, the most recently completed campus residence for students. To the left is the Fairchild Hall of Special Education as well as the new Metcalf Building under construction.





Members of the Committee of One Hundred have guided plans for the observance of the Illinois State Normal University Centennial.

Message -

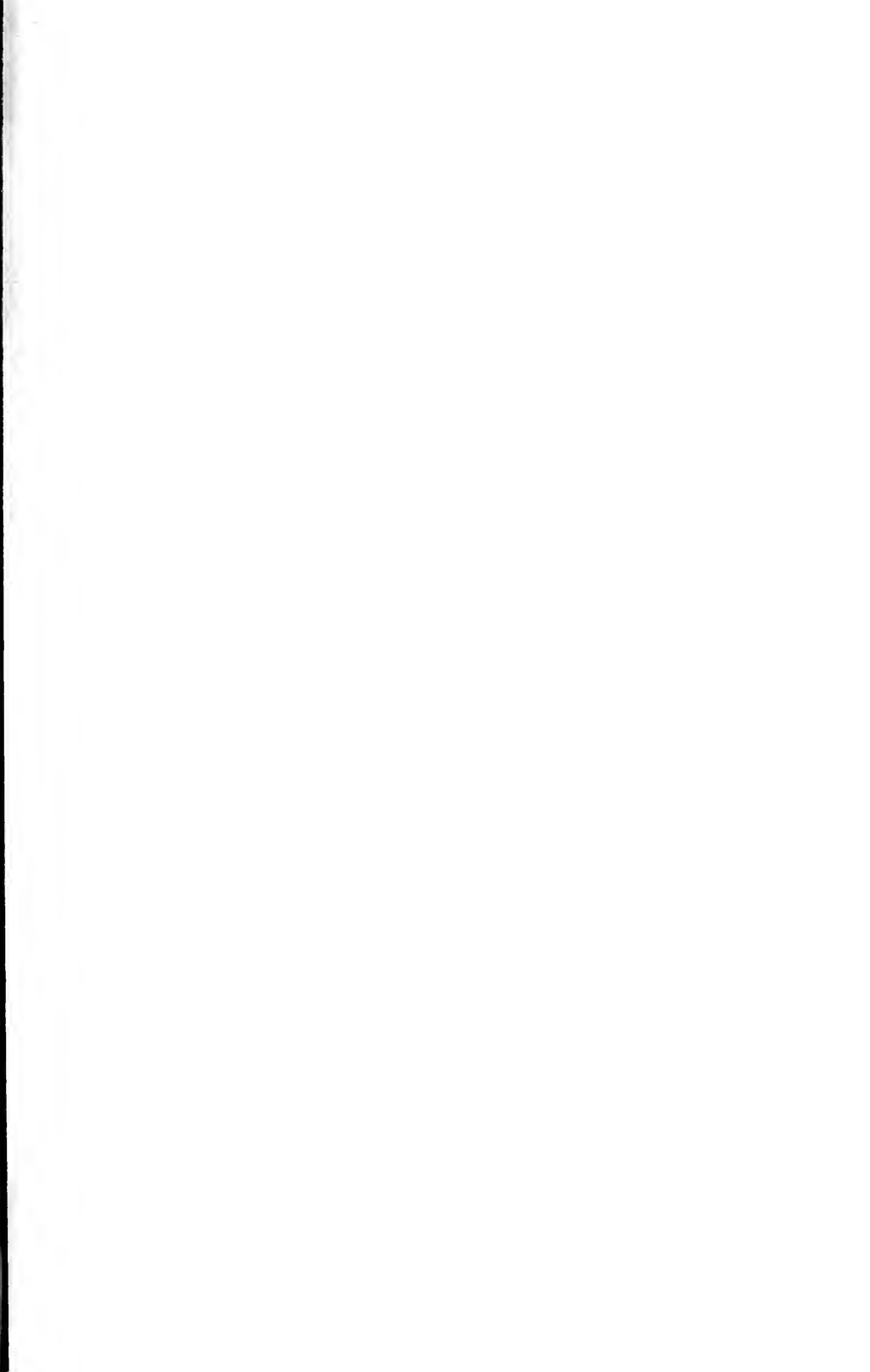
In behalf of the Centennial Committee of One Hundred, the entire staff and the present students of Illinois State Normal University, we extend genuine greetings from and a warm welcome to ISNU during the Centennial Year. We earnestly ask your help in implementing the University's Centennial program, which accents three tenets: "Stemming from the past, teaching the present, forming the future."

Chris A. DeYoung
Executive Secretary of
the Centennial
Robert G. Bone
President, ISNU



A good education
consists in giving
to the body and
to the soul all the
beauty and all the
perfection of which
they are capable.

Plato



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ISNU CENTENNIAL YEAR 1957 NORMAL, ILL.



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